

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification and claims 1, 8 and 13 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant has canceled the method claims of claims 14-20.

Applicant has retained claims 9-12 based upon the Examiner's statement in the office action mailed March 8, 2002 wherein the Examiner stated as follows:

It is noted that if claim 1 as originally filed is part of an elected group and determined to be patentable, rejoinder of claims 1-12 will be considered.

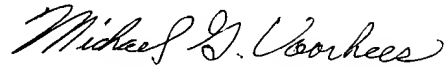
Because claims 9-12 depend from claim 1 they are believed to be species of the allowed generic claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued for claims 1-13.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

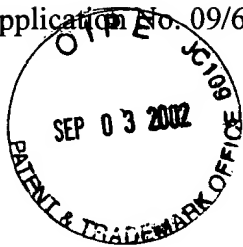
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael G. Voorhees".

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**AMENDMENT — VERSION WITH MARKINGS
TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

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In the Specification

Paragraph beginning at page 4, line 11 has been amended as follows:

Machine 10 includes a cutting table 12 having a back edge 14 and having a table recess 16 formed in its upper surface. Table slot 18 is contained within the table recess 16 and receives a book holder 20. Book holder 20 includes a holder frame 22 which supports a book holder plate 24 on the end of a rod extending from pneumatic cylinder 26. A book 28 is shown being held by the holder plate 24. Book 28 includes a spine 30. The book holder 20 is capable of holding the book 24 and moving within slot 18 to present the various edges of the ~~board~~ book 24 adjacent the back edge 14 of the cutting table. Device 20 is also capable of rotating about a vertical axis to present various edges of the book to the back edge 14 of the cutting table.

Paragraph beginning at page 6, line 33 has been amended as follows:

Attached to the vertical frame members 36 and extending horizontally therebetween is a horizontal locator frame member 116 having a pair of fixed locator blocks 118 attached to its opposite ends. ~~A~~ As shown in Figure 8, locator bolt 120 is threaded within a block 118. A nut 122 is provided as a lock nut. On the upper end of locator bolt 120 is a cone shaped fixed locator 124.

In the Claims

Claims 1, 8, and 13 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended)

Apparatus for cutting or trimming a stack of sheet members ~~supported on a cutting table,~~
~~said apparatus comprising:~~

cutting table;

an elongated knife having a cutting edge extending along an elongated cutting edge axis;

a knife supporting frame connected to said cutting table;

guide mechanism mounting said knife to said supporting frame for movement of said knife from

a start position wherein said knife is positioned spaced from said cutting table and said

stack of sheet members to a cut position wherein said knife moves toward said cutting

table and trims or cuts said stack of sheet members;

said guide mechanism being movable on said frame to a first guide position causing said knife to

move in a first direction relative to said cutting edge axis when moving from said start

position to said cut position;

said guide mechanism being movable on said frame to a second guide position causing said knife

to move in a second direction opposite from said first direction when moving from said

start position to said cut position.

8. (Amended)

Apparatus according to claim 7 ~~and further comprising~~ wherein said mechanism
comprises at least one guide track attached to said frame, ~~and said mechanism having~~ a track
follower ~~mounted on said mechanism and~~ guided within said guide track for guided movement
therein during movement of said linkage mechanism between said first and second guide
positions.

13. (Amended)

Apparatus for trimming or cutting a stack of sheet members ~~supported on a cutting table,~~
~~said apparatus comprising:~~

a support frame connected to said cutting table and extending upwardly therefrom;

linkage mechanism comprising a base link and first and second side links pivotally connected to

said base link and extending downwardly therefrom;

an elongated knife holder having an elongated knife with a cutting edge mounted thereto, and
being pivotally connected to said first and second side links, whereby said base link, said
first and second side links, and said knife holder form a collapsible parallelogram;
an extensible cylinder connected to said frame and to said knife holder for moving said knife
from a start position spaced ~~above said sheet members~~ from said table to a cut position
proximate said table ~~engaging and cutting through said sheet members~~;
said base link being ~~movable~~ movably mounted to said support frame for movement from a first
link position wherein said first and second links angle downwardly at an inclined first
angle when said knife is in said start position to a second link position wherein said first
and second links angle downwardly at an inclined second angle opposite from said first
angle when said knife is in said start position.

Claims 14-20 have been canceled.